United Nations S/PRST/2007/6

Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5644th meeting of the Security Council, held on 22 March 2007, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in the Great Lakes region", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council recalls and reaffirms its Presidential Statement of 16 November 2006 (S/PRST/2006/45) on talks between the Government of the Republic of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA),

"The Security Council stresses its support for a negotiated settlement, commends the Government of Southern Sudan and others for their efforts to further a long-term and peaceful solution to the conflict, reiterates that those responsible for serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law must be brought to justice, and urges that the peace process be concluded expeditiously,

"The Security Council urges the LRA to immediately release all women, children and other non combatants, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) on children and armed conflict,

"The Security Council welcomes the appointment of, and efforts undertaken so far by, His Excellency Joaquim Chissano, former President of Mozambique, as the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the LRA-affected areas, as set out in the Secretary-General's letter of 30 November 2006 to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/930), welcomes his briefing to the Security Council on 22 March 2007, and looks forward to his continued engagement on the issue,

"The Security Council welcomes the meeting between the Government of Uganda and the LRA on 11 March 2007, with community representatives present, and the progress made towards a resumption of talks. The Security Council looks forward to further progress in the talks and the renewal of the cessation of hostilities agreement,

"The Security Council commends the support provided to the talks by states in the region, welcomes contributions to the United Nations (UN) Juba Initiative Project, and urges the UN Secretariat and the countries and regional actors involved to provide further support where possible to Special Envoy Chissano and the mediation team,

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"The Security Council notes the improved security and humanitarian situation in northern Uganda but looks forward to further progress on improving the living conditions for civilians there, and urges the international community and the Government of Uganda to sustain and improve humanitarian and development support, including through Uganda's Emergency Action Plan as overseen by the Joint Monitoring Committee."

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Security Council

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28 March 2007

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5649th meeting of the Security Council, held on 28 March 2007, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Relationship between the United Nations and regional organizations, in particular the African Union, in the maintenance of international peace and security", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"At the 5649th meeting of the Security Council, held on March 28, 2007 in connection with the consideration of the item entitled 'Relationship between the United Nations and regional Organizations, in particular the African Union, in the maintenance of international peace and security' the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council.

"The Security Council re-affirms its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

"The Security Council recognizes the important role of regional organizations in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations as well as its relevant resolutions and presidential statements, in particular resolutions 1625 (2005) and 1631 (2005) and PRST 2006/39. In this respect, the Security Council recalls that cooperation between the United Nations and the regional arrangements in matters relating to the maintenance of peace and security, as are appropriate for regional action, is an integral part of collective security as provided for in the Charter of the United Nations.

"The Security Council recalls the relevant paragraphs of the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document (A/RES/60/1), in particular the support expressed for the development and implementation of a 10-year capacity plan to enhance Africa's peacekeeping capacity, and welcomes the signing in November 2006, of the Declaration on Enhancing UN-AU cooperation between the Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union in the field of peace and security (A/61/630).

"The Security Council also recalls its Presidential Statements (S/PRST/2004/44) made in Nairobi in 2004 and in New York on 20 September 2006 (S/PRST/2006/39), where it expressed its intention to consider further steps to promote closer and more operational cooperation between the UN and regional, sub-regional and other intergovernmental organizations in the field of

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conflict prevention, peacebuilding and peacekeeping and acknowledges the important role played by them in the brokering of peace agreements in conflict situations. The Security Council also welcomes recent developments with regard to the cooperation between the United Nations, the African Union and the European Union.

"The Security Council welcomes the growing contribution being made by the African Union and the resolve of its leaders to address and solve the conflicts on the African continent, the Security Council stresses, in accordance with Article 54 of the Charter of the United Nations, the need for the African Union at all times to keep the Security Council fully informed of these efforts in a comprehensive and coordinated manner.

"The Security Council recognizes that regional organizations are well positioned to understand the root causes of many conflicts closer to home and to influence the prevention or resolution, owing to their knowledge of the region.

"The Security Council urges the Secretary-General in consultation and in cooperation with the relevant regional and sub-regional bodies to resolve regional conflicts in Africa by using existing UN capacities as effectively as possible; to support regional early warning and mediation, in particular in Africa; assess the risk of conflict at regional level and prioritize those areas of highest risk; and highlight possible methods at a regional level in combating illegal exploitation and trafficking of natural resources.

"The Security Council stresses that common and co-coordinated efforts undertaken by the United Nations and regional organizations in matters of peace and security should be based on their complimentary capacities and comparative advantages, making full use of their experience, in accordance with the United Nations Charter and the relevant Statutes of the regional organizations. In this regard the Council recognizes the need to build capacities with regional organizations so as to improve our collective effectiveness in the maintenance of international peace and security. The Security Council recognizes the Peacebuilding Commission as a forum for coordination between the United Nations system and regional and sub-regional organizations.

"The Security Council invites further collaboration with the Peace and Security Council of the African Union in order to help build the latter's capacity to undertake, inter alia, rapid and appropriate responses to emerging situations and to develop effective strategies for conflict prevention, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. The Security Council recognizes that in some cases, the African Union may be authorized by the Security Council to deal with collective security challenges on the African continent. In this connection, the Security Council encourages increased exchange of information and sharing of experience, best practices and lessons learned between the Security Council and the African Union as well as other relevant regional organizations.

"Emphasizing the primacy of the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security the Security Council stresses the importance of supporting and improving in a sustained way the resource base and capacity

of the African Union. In this regard the Security Council requests the Secretary-General to provide a report, in consultation with the relevant regional organizations, in particular the African Union, on specific proposals on how the United Nations can better support arrangements for further cooperation and coordination with regional organizations on Chapter VIII arrangements in order to contribute significantly to the common security challenges in the areas of concern and to promote the deepening and broadening of dialogue and cooperation between the Security Council and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union."

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Security Council

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28 March 2007

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5651st meeting of the Security Council, held on 28 March 2007, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Côte d'Ivoire", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the Agreement signed by President Laurent Gbagbo and Mr. Guillaume Soro in Ouagadougou on 4 March 2007 under the facilitation of the Chairperson of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), President Blaise Compaoré of Burkina Faso (S/2007/144). It commends the parties signatory to the Agreement for the spirit of compromise and the sense of responsibility they have displayed, and pays tribute to President Blaise Compaoré for his efforts to facilitate the conclusion of the Agreement.

"The Security Council takes note of the commitments of the parties to its resolutions on Côte d'Ivoire, including resolution 1721 (2006), and underlines that the Ouagadougou Agreement provides a good basis for a comprehensive and all-inclusive settlement of the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire through the organisation of credible elections.

"The Security Council takes note of the recommendations of ECOWAS and of the African Union. It endorses the Ouagadougou Agreement of 4 March 2007, and calls upon the Ivorian parties to implement it fully, in good faith and within the timetable set out in the Agreement.

"The Security Council commends the outgoing Prime Minister, Mr. Charles Konan Banny, whose tireless efforts permitted progress in the implementation of the peace process and contributed to restore a climate of confidence in Côte d'Ivoire.

"The Security Council takes note of the agreement among the parties on the institutional arrangements, as indicated by the letter dated 27 March 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Burkina Faso to the President of the Security Council, and supports the appointment of Mr. Guillaume Soro as Prime Minister.

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"The Security Council expresses its readiness to take further steps, in the light of the progress achieved, in order to help the parties in implementing their commitments and to support the peace process in Côte d'Ivoire, in particular the electoral process. It requests the Secretary-General to submit to it recommendations by 15 May 2007 on the role that the United Nations should play to support the implementation of the peace process, taking into account the latest developments in Côte d'Ivoire."

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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5653rd meeting of the Security Council, held on 3 April 2007, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council deplores the violence which occurred from 22 to 25 March in Kinshasa between the Congolese security forces and the security guards of Senator Jean-Pierre Bemba. It expresses its grave concern at the loss of lives, in particular of civilians, and urges all parties to respect the sanctity of human life and the principles of human rights. It also expresses its regret at the destruction and pillaging, including of some diplomatic missions, which took place during the clashes.

"The Security Council encourages the Congolese authorities and the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) to undertake the necessary investigations into these events.

"The Security Council emphasizes the legitimacy of the new democratically elected institutions and the need for these institutions to ensure the protection of the population. At the same time, it underlines the importance of these institutions operating with respect for the rule of law, human rights and international humanitarian law, and avoiding any unnecessary or disproportionate use of force.

"The Security Council regrets the use of violence, instead of dialogue, to resolve disputes, and urges all Congolese stakeholders to pursue negotiated solutions to their differences with respect for the constitutional framework and the law. It calls on the Government to respect the space and role conferred on parties by the Constitution with a view to ensuring their effective participation in the national political debate, and encourages all parties to remain committed to the political process.

"The Security Council welcomes the declaration of the Conference of Presidents of the Congolese National Assembly of 26 March 2007, in which all parliamentary groups reaffirmed their commitment to supporting the democratic process and recommended that all institutions of the Republic work towards reconciliation, national harmony and permanent dialogue between political stakeholders.

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"The Security Council expresses its full support for the efforts of MONUC to re-establish dialogue between the Government and opposition parties and to contribute to the protection of the civilian population.

"The Security Council takes note of the Communiqué of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union of 24 March 2007, and of the Communiqué of the Extra Ordinary Summit of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Heads of State and Government held in Dar-Es-Salaam on 28 and 29 March 2007 which reaffirms the sovereign right of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to have a single national army and urges all armed groups to integrate into the national army or to be demobilized.

"The Security Council reiterates the importance of the international community's continuing support for the peace consolidation process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly with a view to carrying out urgently security sector reform, and the need to ensure concerted action by international partners to this end. It recognizes that such support must be based on a shared commitment from the Congolese authorities and all Congolese political actors to national reconciliation and to the strengthening of democratic institutions."